

District IV Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes
September 7, 2005
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The **District IV Advisory Board Meeting** was held at 7:00 p.m. at the Lionel Alford Branch Library. In attendance was nine (9) District Advisory Board members, six (6) staff and approximately twenty-five (25) citizens with nine (9) signing in.

Members Present

Ed Koon
Tom Englemann
Joshua Blick
Michael Gisick
Jim Benton
Doug Leeper
Mary Cockburn
Marjorie Griffith
Peggy Bennett
Gerald Marsh
Council Member Gray

Staff Present

Gary Janzen, Public Works
Paul Gunzelman, Public Works
Cynthia Berner Harris, Library
Sarah Gilbert, Career Development
Brandon Kauffman, City Manager's Office

Members Absent

Jerry McGinty
Doug Shoen

Guests

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Order of Business

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Jim Benton (Doug Leeper) moved to approve the agenda for the September 7, 2005 meeting. The motion passed 9-0.

Michael Gisick (Benton) moved to approve the minutes for the August 3, 2005 meeting. The motion passed 9-0.

Public Agenda

The Public Agenda allows members of the public to present matters to the District Advisory Board. Each presentation is limited to a period of five minutes unless extended by the Board.

1. Scheduled Items

No items were presented to the District Advisory Board.

2. Off-Agenda Items

Steven Shawn, 2234 Rutledge Circle stated that he is hear to speak in regards to drainage problems in his neighborhood. Homes in the area have flooded due to a number of issues and the city has not helped to address the problem.

A citizen stated that the ditch in the area needs to be cleaned. He stated he was aware it is a township ditch and that is their responsibility, but it is affecting city residents. The second issue is that people have built up their yards on the two south lots so that the water does not naturally flow.

Gary Janzen stated that he would try to work with area residents on their concerns.

Carol Weinberg, stated that she hope the District Advisory Board and Council Member Gray will vote against hiring a private management company to run Century II. She also presented a petition for people to sign against private management running the facility. She felt that three things needed to occur for Century II, which were:

1. Have a professional director who reports to the City Manager
2. Have an advisory board who could assist with facility issues; and
3. A community vote should occur on the issue since the facility was built for the community.

Staff Presentations

3. Community Police Officers

No community police officer reports were given to the District Advisory Board.

Action: Receive and File.

4. McArthur Improvement, from Meridian to Seneca

Gary Janzen, Public Works Department, stated that the 2005-2014 Capital Improvements Program adopted by the City Council includes a project to improve McArthur, from Meridian to Seneca. The improvements consist of reconstructing McArthur to provide four lanes with left turn lanes and landscaped medians. The intersection of McArthur at Meridian will be signalized with left turn lanes at all four approaches to the intersection. A new storm water sewer system will be built and the available right of way will be landscaped. Construction is planned to begin for 2006.

Jeff Bradley, Baughman Company, stated that the City would hope to bid the project in 2006. This is a Kansas Department of Transportation project with federal funds. Medians will be

interspaced for the first ½ mile of the project. Trees on the north side will need to be taken out for sidewalk and grading work. There will also be possibilities of bus stop landings along the route, this still needs to be coordinated with the Transit Department.

Janzen stated that the current road is two lane and they will be developing to urban standards with drainage systems.

Council Member Gray asked if the ditches would be removed. **Janzen** stated that they would be removed. **CM Gray** asked if there would be landscaping in the medians. **Janzen** stated yes.

Joshua Blick asked about the traffic count for the area. **Bradley** stated there are approximately 6 to 7 thousand cars. **Blick** asked if the intersection improvements would be first or second. **Janzen** stated that the traffic would keep flowing.

Peggy Bennett asked if wheelchair ramps will be a part of the project. **Janzen** stated that there will be wheelchair ramps.

Leeper asked if there will be easements or right of ways for buses to pull off. **Janzen** stated that buses will not have an additional lane to pull into for their stop.

Gisick asked in the future that maps be translucent. **Leeper** asked that they take consideration of the number of trees that will need to be replaced and try to conserve as many as possible.

B A Rudebeth, 3200 SE Boulevard, Lot 65, stated that he was concerned with moving the turning lane for the mobile home park. **Janzen** stated that they could utilize medians to assist with any safety concerns.

Martha Boar, 1810 W McArthur, asked if there would be sidewalks on both sides. **Janzen** stated yes.

Gerald Marsh, asked how many bus pads there would be available. **Janzen** stated that there would be at least two pads, this will need to be coordinated with MTA.

Leeper asked if the speed would be increased. **Janzen** stated the speed limit will stay at 40.

B A Rudebeth asked if an eight-foot concrete wall could be built to replace the trees. **Janzen** stated that this would not be feasible.

Action: Gisick (Benton) recommended approval of the project with and recommended that Public Works work with the mobile home parks in the area. The motion passed 9-0.

5. Improvement to the Intersection of Pawnee and McLean

Paul Gunzelman, Public Works, stated that the 2005-2014 Capital Improvement Program includes a project to improve the intersection of Pawnee and McLean. The project will reconstruct the intersection to improve the driving surface and drainage. Traffic signals will be

upgraded and construction is planned for 2006. The pavement is currently breaking up and turn lanes will be improved for easier turns.

Blick asked if there would be any improvement to the bridge. **Gunzelman** stated no. **Blick** asked if it would be a possibility to extend the median past Osage.

Action: Gisick (Englemann) recommended approval of the project. The motion passed 9-0.

6. Sidewalk on Gold, north of MacArthur

Paul Gunzelman, Public Works, stated that the 2005-2014 Capital Improvement Program adopted by the City Council includes funding for arterial sidewalk and wheelchair ramps. The project proposed to built will construct sidewalk from I-235 to MacArthur on the west side of Gold. Construction is planned for 2005. There are currently 68 students according to the school who live S of MacArthur.

Action: Benton (Leeper) recommended approval of the project . The motion passed by a vote of 9-0.

7. Fall Library Program

Cynthia Berner Harris, presented information to the District Advisory Board regarding Library programs. DAB members were asked to receive information about the Library and provide any comments.

CM Gray asked if the technology training is for kids or is it primarily for adults. **Berner Harris** stated that the classes are primarily during the daytime and aimed at the adult population.

Gisick asked what "Talk like a Pirate Day" was. **Berner Harris** stated that they are family films.

Gerald Marsh asked if this was promoted on Channel 7. **Berner Harris** stated that there is a new commercial on Channel 7 for the Library.

Gisick stated that the city should look into providing access to people who bring in their own computer such as a lap top.

CM Gray stated that they are looking into a city wide program.

Action: Receive and File.

8. Appointments and Elections to the Community Services Block Grant (SCBG) Review Committee

Sarah Gilbert, Career Development Office, stated that the CSBG Review Committee is a twelve-member board , with membership based in the District Advisory Boards. Four members are elected and four members are appointed to represent the City council and the remaining four represent certain community sectors. The term is two years and the group usually meets at 3:30 four times a year and rotate through the Neighborhood City Halls.

Action: Benton (Cockburn) DAB members recommended that Joshua Blick be appointed to the board. The motion passed 9-0.

Board Agenda

CM Gray stated that the Council breakfast was this Saturday at 9 am. Emergency procedures have also been put in place to accommodate for 1,800 people at Century II for Hurricane Katrina victims. The City could receive people on two hours notice.

Leeper asked if corporations have been involved for job placement issues. **CM Gray** stated that there has been a nationwide effort to steer professionals according to the job market. **Leeper** asked if there would be any background checks. **CM Gray** stated that there would not be any checks.

Gisick stated that they had their neighborhood cleanup last weekend.

CM Gray introduced Gerald Marsh and Peggy Bennett as new additions to the District IV Advisory Board.

Benton (Leeper) motioned to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Brandon Kauffman
District IV Neighborhood Assistant**

Guests

Elvin and Carolyn Leedy
Carol and Don Weinberg
Jeff Bradley
David Ford
Jennifer and Ryan Uptom
Lori Kurtz
Josh White
Steve and Tara Shawn

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